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STATE OF NEW YORK LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY BUFFALO, NY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Acknowledging and Honoring Jay Withey

WHEREAS, Jay Withey, a 27-year-old mechanic from Cheektowaga, stepped forward during the Blizzard of 2022 to help save lives of those who were stranded outside; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating what it means to truly live to serve and amongst the lifethreatening elements, Jay exercised faith, love and provided safety to several individuals; and

WHEREAS, on Christmas Eve, Jay had welcomed other survivors in his truck, but his truck ran out of gas, forcing him to seek an immediate safe haven for heat, food and water; and

WHEREAS, Jay found entry into Pine Hill School in Cheektowaga, and immediately went back out into the storm in search of others who needed help, including seven elderly people who were stranded in their cars, and brought them to safety inside the school; and

WHEREAS, Jay's heroic actions were praised by local and national media, and he received thank you letters from across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Jay gave from the abundance of his heart and saved lives, as he selflessly worked around the clock on his own personal rescue mission, and even had the decency to leave a note apologizing for entering the school and using their supplies for survival; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body appreciates, recognizes and give thanks to active leaders in our community such as *Jay Withey*, and extends special thanks for his bravery, heroics, sincerest love and appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pauses in our deliberations to honor and recognize *Jay Withey* for his above-and-beyond efforts during the life-threatening Blizzard of 2022 and his selfless service to our community.